The well of student earning potential is bottomless. All it requires are your abilities and imagination.

- There are alternatives to working at the expense of your grades.

14. Post Cards and Phone Calls

Surprisingly, the U.S. Post Office can help improve your grades.

After the final exam in each course, you should give all of your professors a self-addressed postcard. The card should state the course name and have a blank space where the final grade is to be entered.

This correspondence approach makes your grade more personal in nature when the instructor fills it out and sends it back to you individually. If the grade is borderline (between an A and a B) and could go either way, psychologically the professor just might give the "interested" student the benefit of the doubt.

Important note: *Don't wait to receive the card in the mail.* Right after final exams, call or go see the instructor and *find out your grade.* Then, if the grade is close, you can discuss it with the professor before it is turned in to the registrar's office. You might still convince him you're entitled to the higher grade. However, once the grade is turned in to the registrar's office, it is much harder to persuade an instructor to go through all the hassle of changing it.

Also, your final grade might determine what you will pre-register for the next semester in the event grades are delayed until after registration.

Often, a simple phone call can make the difference between a "B" and an "A" on borderline grades. Remember, there's no ironclad rule for where a "B" ends and an "A" begins. No grade is final.

- Grades are just a matter of timing.
- Find out what your grade is as soon as possible. Fight for close ones. Don't sit back and miss an A by one or two points without a struggle.

15. Schedule Study Time to Your Biological Clock.

Determine when you study best. Some of us are early birds. Others of us are night owls. Most of us are somewhere in between. And because our "biological clocks" are all different we study and concentrate best when our temperatures are highest. So instead of fighting it, we need to take advantage of it.

Of the three types, the night person will encounter the most criticism, especially if